

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 477

By Lewis

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Liza St. John for receiving the Distinguished Finalist medallion in the fifth annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those persons who through their personal efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Liza St. John, of Morrison, in Coffee County, who was named one of Tennessee's top student volunteers at the fifth annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program; and

WHEREAS, a senior at Coffee County Central High School in Manchester, Ms. St. John is the recipient of the bronze Distinguished Finalist medallion from Prudential for her outstanding dedication and hard work in founding the Teen Actors' Guild (TAG) and as a board member of the Millennium Repertory Theater; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the Prudential Insurance Company of America joined in making the presentation of the award from this nationwide program of recognition; and

WHEREAS, Liza's fascination with the theater began seven years ago, when she received a scholarship to attend a summer camp organized by a dinner theater group that located in her hometown of Morrison. When the group was unable to support itself, it was taken over as the Manchester Cultural Arts Center; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the difficulty in maintaining the arts in rural settings, Ms. St. John, with other teenagers, founded TAG of which she is the current president, and with small groups, developed the constitutions of TAG and the Millennium Repertory Theater; and

WHEREAS, TAG and the theater provide a forum for self-expression, creativity, understanding of self and society, and the building of self-esteem for youth. In her immersion in founding TAG and working in the theater and its administration, Liza has learned leadership, discipline and the ability to delegate authority and motivate others; and

WHEREAS, Liza epitomizes the spirit and commitment that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; her efforts have enriched the lives of the people of her community; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people like Ms. St. John, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Liza for her dedication to the state of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Liza St. John upon receiving the Distinguished Finalist medallion in the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

